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ing in the state, are the consequences of destruction of the forests, whereby the climate of the respective districts has been changed and marshes have originated. Therefore the hygienic problem is at the same time an economical question. Improvement depends on the work of engineers and on strict regulations of sanitary character. Unfortunately material difficulties thwarted good intentions. It may, however, be possible to take the first step which is to prohibit the destruction of the forests and to favor the planting of suitable trees and shrubs.

The president emphasizes the special duty of preserving the favorable sanitary conditions of Petropolis because in consequence of international relations, Petropolis, in a manner, counterbalances the somewhat unfavorable reputation of Rio de Janeiro.

There has been in view a project for promoting a bacteriological institute, but from want of money it will be necessary to give it up. Moreover, from the same cause, it was impossible to provide in a more effective manner for the insane, who, meanwhile, are kept in the prisons of the state. For these unfortunates there has been established an asylum, in which they may remain until they can obtain admission into the Hospicio Nacional.

It may be mentioned that the city of Rio de Janeiro is an independent municipality with a government of its own, and does not belong to the state of Rio de Janeiro.

Since last report, the following-named ships have been inspected and received bills of health of this office: September 15, steamship *Skerrivore*, British, for St. Lucia; ship *Eaton Hall*, British, for San Francisco. September 16, steamship *Cyrene*, British, for New York. September 17, steamship *Tolosa*, British, for New York; steamship *British Prince*, British, for New York. September 19, steamship *Corrientes*, French, for New Orleans. September 20, steamship *Ashi*, German, for New York.

Respectfully, yours,

W. HAVELBURG,
Sanitary Inspector U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

COLOMBIA.

Yellow fever on the Alleghany for New York.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D. C., November 5, 1898.

SIR: I have the honor to append for the information of the Supervising Surgeon-General of the Marine-Hospital Service, a copy of a telegram received yesterday from our consul at Barranquilla, Colombia.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure—Cablegram.]

BARRANQUILLA, *November 2, 1898.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *Washington, D. C.: Alleghany sailed on the 1st for New York. Yellow fever.*

SHAW.